

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01
TRSE-00 CU-02 EB-08 EUR-12 /078 W
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R 080420Z MAR 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7341
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PEKING 419

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CH
SUBJECT: THE PROVINCIAL SCENE: POSTERS AND OTHER OBSERVATIONS

REF: (A) PEKING 410, (B) PEKING 95 (C) PEKING 43

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. USLO OFFICER VISITED SHANGHAI, SUCHOU (SOOCHOW), NANKING, LOYANG AND SIAN DURING FEBRUARY 22-MARCH 5. REF A REPORTS MAJOR IMPRESSIONS. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES DETAILS OF WALLPOSTERS AND OTWER OBSERVATIONS. POSTERS INDICATE THAT LOCAL FIGURES CONTINUE TO BE ROOTED OUT UNDER THE RUBRIC OF THE CAMPAIGN TO CRITICIZE THE "GANG OF FOUR." BUT LEADING ASSOCIATES OF THE GANG WERE CLEARLY PURGED BY MID-JANUARY. IN SHANGHAI THERE STILL APPEARS TO EXIST CONSIDERABLE FERMENT, WITH POSTER WRITERS INTENT ON REOPENING CASES LONG CLOSED AND EXPOSING ALLEGED ECONOMIC INDUSTRIES. NOWHERE DID USLO OFFICER OBSERVE POSTERS CALLING FOR RETURN OF TENG OR REOPENING OF TIENANMEN CASE. END SUMMARY.

2. SHANGHAI (2/23-24). POSTERS ATTACKING THE GANG OF FOUR AND THEIR ASSOCIATES ON THE SHANGHAI
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REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE WERE NOT IN EVIDENCE, ALTHOUGH MANY OF THE STANDARD CARICATURES WERE POSTED ALONG SIDEWALKS AND IN FACTORIES. THE CITY SEEMED CALM AND THERE WAS NO SIGN OF HEIGHTENED SECURITY MEASURES BY DAY OR NIGHT. A FEW POSTERS, UNFORTUNATELY RIPPED OR PASTED OVER, INDICATED THAT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF POLITICAL FERMENT CONTINUES. ONE SLOGAN POSTED

ALONG CHAO-CHIA-PIN STREET CONTAINED AN APPEAL TO "RESOLUTELY SUPPORT CENTRAL HANDLING OF THE JANUARY 15 AND JANUARY 24 INCIDENTS." THROUGHOUT DOWNTOWN SHANGHAI THERE WERE POSTED NUMEROUS SLOGANS CALLING FOR "RESOLUTE IMPLEMENTATION OF CENTRAL DIRECTIVE #159 (1968) AND #94 (1968)." THESE SLOGANS, AND A FOUR-PAGE OPUS POSTED ELSEWHERE IN DOWNTOWN SHANGHAI, WERE AUTHORED BY DOWN-TO-THE-COUNTRYSIDE (DCY) YOUTH SERVING IN HEILUNGKIANG BUT TEMPORARILY IN SHANGHAI FOR THE SPRING FESTIVAL. THE SIGNATORS IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MEMBERS OF A RED GUARD UNIT DISBANDED AND PUNITIVELY SENT TO THE COUNTRYSIDE IN 1968 AFTER ATTACKING CHANG CHUN-CHIAO. JUSTIFYING THEIR PAST ACTIONS, THEY APPEAL FOR "FULL IMPLEMENTATION" OF THE TWO DIRECTIVES CITED ABOVE--WHICH WOULD PRESUMABLY RESULT IN THEIR PERMANENT RETURN TO SHANGHAI.

3. OTHER POSTERS IN DOWNTOWN SHANGHAI ADDRESSED PERSONAL GRIEVANCES, SOME POLITICAL AND SOME ECONOMIC. A SIX-PAGE POSTER DATED FEBRUARY 24 AND SIGNED BY SHANGHAI SHIH-YING-SHA FACTORY WORKER K'AN KUO-MIN (7074/0948/3046) ATTRACTED A CROWD OF AROUND 100 IN FRONT OF THE SHANGHAI CUSTOMS BUILDING. ADDRESSED TO "RESPECTED COMRADES SU CHEN-HUA, NI CHIH-FU, PENG CHUNG AND THE SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE," IT STATES THAT THE MASSES WERE PREVENTED FROM MAKING KNOWN THEIR GRIEVANCES DURING THE GANG OF FOUR ERA. AFFIRMING THAT "THE PEOPLE NOW HAVE FAITH IN THE NEW LEADERSHIP AND ARE CONFIDENTIAL

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CERTAIN THAT THEY WILL HANDLE PROBLEMS CORRECTLY," THE AUTHOR OBSERVES, PERHAPS ACIDLY, THAT "PERHAPS YOU ARE STILL NOT AWARE OF CERTAIN THINGS." THE AUTHOR APPEALS FOR THE UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE FROM DETENTION AND "RESTORATION OF REPUTATION" TO ONE P'AN YUEH-CHEN (3382/2588/3791), ON WHOSE BEHALF CROWDS HAD EARLIER MASSED IN FRONT OF THE SHANGHAI REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE BUILDING. THE AUTHOR ASSERTS THAT P'AN HAD BEEN "UNREASONABLY JAILED" FOR SIX DAYS AND FINED 2055 CATTIES OF GRAIN AND 33 CATTIES OF OIL--FIGURES WRITTEN IN GIGANTIC STROKES ON THE POSTER--WHICH WAS "SUFFICIENT TO FEED A FAMILY FOR THREE YEARS."

4. A TENG-PAGE POSTER OUTSIDE THE MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE BUILDING APPEALED FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM A MENTAL INSTITUTION. DATED FEBRUARY 10 AND SIGNED BY WANG CHEN-YI (3769/7021/3015), THE POSTER (MOST OF WHICH IS COVERED BY AN ORTHODOX

SLOGAN CALLING FOR SUPPORT OF HUA) CLAIMED THAT WANG HAD BEEN BRANDED A COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY AND UNJUSTLY CONFINED TO A MENTAL INSTITUTION IN 1972. ANOTHER POSTER IN THE SAME AREA, DATED FEBRUARY 22, APPEALED FOR HIGHER FAGES.

5. SUCHOU (2/25-26). THERE ARE STILL VISIBLE MANY POSTERS AND PAINTED SLOGANS, VINTAGE DECEMBER-JANUARY, ATTACKING ERSTWHILE SUCHOU MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HUA LIN-SEN (5478/2651/2773) AND HIS COLLEAGUES TSOU HSUEH-WEN (6760/1331/2429) AND HUANG YU-WEN (7806/3768/2429) (REF C). OTHER BANNERS HAILED THE OPENING ON FEBRUARY 25 OF THE SUCHOU MUNICIPAL MEETING ON LEARNING FROM TACHAI. THE CITY SEEMED ECONOMICALLY DEPRESSED. THE CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE GUIDE DECLARED THAT ONLY CABBAGE WAS AVAILABLE IN THE CITY'S
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MARKETS. STILL POSTED THROUGHOUT THE CITY WERE COPIES OF SUCHOU MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT 76 (37), WHICH BEGINS "AT A TIME WHEN ALL ARE CRITICIZING THE GANG OF FOUR, THEIR BLACK ACE GENERAL HUA LIN-SEN, AND A FEW OTHERS IN SUCHOU, THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE IS TIGHTENING CONTROL OF MARKETS, SPECULATION, AND FREE MARKET ACTIVITIES."

6. NANKING (2-27-28). THE ONLY POSTERS VISIBLE IN THE CITY WERE OFFICIALLY-SPONSORED CREATIONS BY SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE NANKING TRADE UNION CHINA YOUTH LEAGUE. THE ONLY LOCAL PERSONAGE ATTACKED WAS TSENG PANG-YUAN (2582/1620/0337); TSENG WAS ACCUSED

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OF ILLICIT LINKS WITH THE GANG OF FOUR, INCLUDING A BOAST THAT HE HAD BEEN GRANTED A "PERSONAL AUDIENCE" BY CHANG CHUN-CHIAO IN 1970. WITHIN THE NANKING MOTOR VEHICLE FACTORY THERE WAS ONE POSTER ATTACKING SHANGHAI'S WANG HSIU-CHEN AND ONE POSTER CRITICIZING CHIANG CHING FOR A 1973 VISIT TO CHINGTAO. ALSO IN THE FACTORY WERE NUMEROUS SLOGANS CALLING FOR EMULATION OF "IRON MAN" WANG CHIN-HSI AND LEARNING FROM TACHING, DOUBTLESS PLACED UP IN CONNECTION WITH CONVENING ON FEBRUARY 27 OF THE NANKING MUNICIPAL LEARN FROM TACHING CONFERENCE.

7. KAIFENG (3/1). ONE POSTER AT THE KAIFENG RAILWAY STATION ATTACKED LIU JEN-P'ING (0491/0088/1627) AS "KAIFENG'S BLACK ACE GENERAL OF THE GANG OF FOUR." OTHER UNDATED BUT QUITE OLD POSTERS ATTACKED HONAN REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN T'ANG CH'I-SHAN.

8. LOYANG (3/1-2). IN LOYANG, A CITY WHICH GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF GRINDING POVERTY, POSTERS AND SLOGANS DATING BACK SOME NINE MONTHS REMAIN ON DISPLAY. (THUS, SEVERAL SLOGANS ATTACKING TENG
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HSIAO-PING AS THE "BEHIND-THE-SCENES BOSS" OF VARIOUS NEFARIOUS ACTIVITIES MAY STILL BE OBSERVED.) THE VAST MAJORITY OF ATTACKS ARE LEVELED AGAINST T'ANG CH'I-SHAN AND MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE MEMBER LAN WEI-CH'UAN (5663/4850/2938) (REF C). SEVERAL POSTERS AT THE LOYANG CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY FACTORY ACCUSED LAN OF "PERSONALLY AND DIRECTLY INSERTING HIS BLACK HAND INTO THE FACTORY." ASKED LATER TO ELABORATE ON THIS CHARGE, HOWEVER, FACTORY OFFICIALS MERELY CLAIMED THAT LAN HAD STIRRED UP THE WORKERS TO ATTACK THEIR LEADERSHIP THROUGH POSTERS, HAD CRITICIZED EXCESSIVE EMPHASIS ON PRODUCTION, AND HAD FOUND FAULT WITH THE FACTORY'S HANDLING OF ITS 7-21 WORKERS' UNIVERSITY.

9. OTHER POSTERS STILL VISIBLE IN LOYANG ATTACKED THE FOLLOWING:

--WANG TA-HAI (3769/1129/3189) MUST RETURN TO LOYANG FOR INVESTIGATION. WANG TA-HAI MUST ADMIT HIS GUILT.
--CH'ANG CHENG-CH'ENG (2490/3932/2052) MUST ADMIT HIS GUILT.
--STRIKE DOWN FAN CH'UN-HSIN (5400/2504/0207). FAN CH'UN-HSIN WENT TO TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY AND SET UP A BLACK LIAISON POINT.
--STRIKE DOWN LIU HSING-CHIEH (0491/5281/2638); KUNG LI (1712/0500); CHAO YU-K'UN (6392/3768/2492).
--CH'EN PING-SHAN (7115/0014/1472) ATTACKED THE HEAD OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE (IE.E. HUA KUO-FENG).
--STRIKE DOWN THOSE WHO OPPOSE VICE PERMIER CHI (TENG-KUEI).

10. SIAN (3/3-4). THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ALSO SEEMED TO HAVE PEAKED IN SIAN BY JANUARY; AND TATTERED POSTERS STILL VISIBLE ON THE BELL TOWER AND WALLS IN OWN-TOWN SIAN ATTACKED ONLY LOCAL FIGURES. MID-JANUARY POSTERS CALLING FOR THE RETURN OF TENG HAISO-PING (REF B) HAD BEEN REMOVED. THE ONLY LOCAL PERSONAGE OF NOTE UNDER ATTACK WAS WANG LIN (3769/2651), CHAIR-CONFIDENTIAL

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MAN OF THE SIAN MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE. ONE POSTER LABELED WANG THE "GANG OF FOUR'S REPRESENTATIVE IN SIAN," A CHARGE THAT MAKES SENSE IN LIGHT OF WANG'S FIRST IDENTIFICATION IN HIS POSITION IN APRIL 1976.

11. THE PRIMARY ISSUE OCCUPYING THE ATTENTION OF SIAN POSTER WRITERS WAS THE RECENT ARRESTS OF KUO YING-MING (6753/2019/2494) AND KUO TE-MIN (6753/1795/3046) FOR UNSPECIFIED CRIMES. POSTERS THROUGHOUT THE CITY HAILED THEIR ARRESTS "ACCORDING TO LAW" BY THE SIAN PUBLIC SECURITY OFFICE. KUO YING-MING SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE MUNICIPAL TRADE AND FINANCE OFFICE, WHILE KUO TE-MIN WAS IDENTIFIED ONLY AS THE OTHER KUO'S "BLACK ACE GENERAL." QUITE POSSIBLY CORRUPTION RATHER THAN LINKS TO THE GANG OF FOUR EXPLAINS THE ARRESTS.

12. OTHER POSTERS STILL VISIBLE IN SIAN WERE:
--THE GANG OF FOUR'S BLACK HENCHMAN IS LIU CH'ENG-FENG (0491/2052/1496).
--SHENSI #1 TEXTILE FACTORY SECRETARY CHANG YU-JO (1728/3768/0678) ATTACKED PROVINCIAL LEADER LI JUI-SHAN.
--SIAN MUNICIPAL TRADE UNION LLEADELUSUNG HSIU-YING (1345/4423/5391) INCITED OUR FACTORY'S WORKERS TO ENGAGE IN REBELLIOUS ACTIVITIES AND WHIPPED UP PUBLIC OPINION.
--IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR SHEN SHIH-HSIEN (3947/0013/0341) TO HIDE IN THE HOSPITAL AND

AVOID EXPOSING THE CRIMES OF THE GANG OF FOUR.

13. AS IN LOYANG (REF A), THE FREE MARKET IN
ECONOMICALLY DEPRESSED SIAN WAS VISIBLY FLOURISHING.
SIAN MUNICIPAL PUBLIC SECURITY OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENT
#1 (1/15/77), ENTITLED "STRICT PROHIBITION OF
ILLEGAL TRANSACTIONS IN BICYCLES," TAKES NOTE OF
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THE RECENT INCREASE EVERYWHERE OF UNLICENSED PUR-
CHASE AND SALE OF BICYCLES AND INDICATES THAT
OFFENDERS WILL BE STRICTLY PROSECUTED.
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Message Attributes

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